

GAME FACE

cleveland indians program

an official team publication

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Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

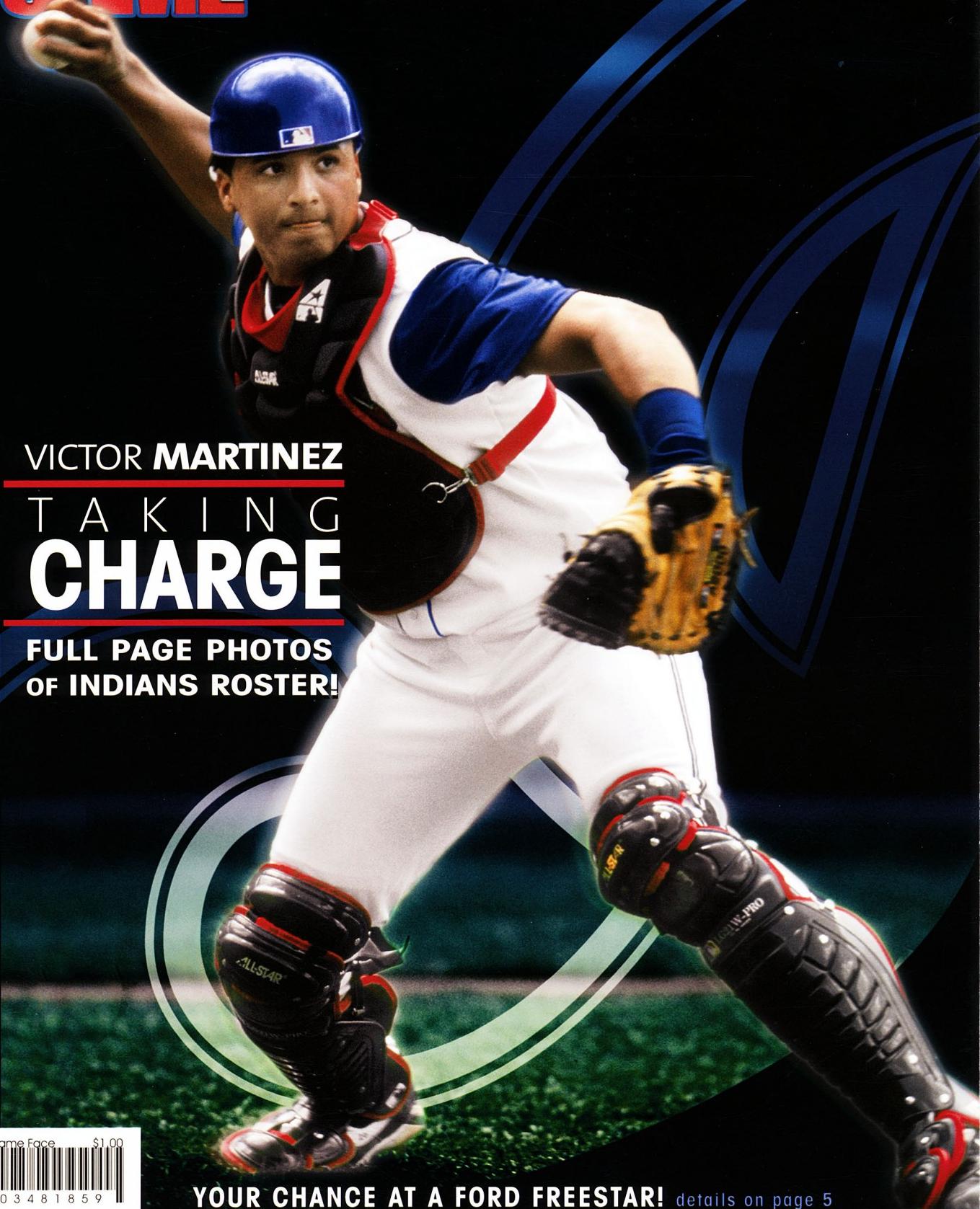
VICTOR MARTINEZ
TAKING
CHARGE

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GAME FACE

ISSUE TWO

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Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



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Postcard entries also accepted. Guess the number of baseballs inside the vehicle located on the Main Concourse, Section 153. One of 10 keys will start the engine!

VICTOR MARTINEZ...TAKING CHARGE

by Steve Herrick

A quick-shot through the Minor League system, with one MVP title and two batting titles along the way, 25-year-old Martinez is considered one of the top young players in the game today. The Indians expect this switch-hitting workhorse to be behind the plate for a long time.

DAVID RISKE...COOL, CALM, COLLECTED CLOSER

by Jim Ingraham

In his fourth season as an Indians reliever, Riske was a long shot at best back in the summer of 1996 when he was the 1,559th player selected in the 56th round of the June Amateur Draft. Now in the role of Tribe closer, this "diamond in the rough" has an unflappable presence on the mound.

WHAT SAY THE STARS FOR TRIBE STARS?

by Andrea Mallis

Just for fun, we hope you enjoy this entertaining celestial glimpse at what the stars hold for our curious and eager Gemini Tribe members.



This month I'd like to share with you a recent personal experience whereby I was inspired and educated by an up-close look at a disease known as Multiple Sclerosis. I was unaware of its affect on those who live with it every day, however, in the beautiful sunshine of Florida I experienced firsthand just how devastating and disabling this disease truly is. I watched my dear friend Stacy Datz going through a relapse of MS. Stacy, wife of Indians first base coach Jeff Datz, is a strong, vivacious woman and dear friend of mine, and to watch her courageously battle a symptom of MS was heartbreaking. Therefore I am dedicating this edition of Kate's Page to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The mission of NMSS is to end the devastating effects it has on many. NMSS supports research efforts, educates, provides a variety of empowering programs, organizes fund-raising events, and advocates for people with disabilities. One of these fund-raising events is the MS Walk, which takes place each spring. The Indians Wives Association formed a 10-woman team and participated with Stacy in the MS walk in Orlando, Florida. Special thanks to the wives who assisted in this fund-raising event. Other events include the MS Bike Tours, fishing tournaments, luncheons, and galas. These events raise money as a continued effort to perform extensive research to find a cure for MS and strive to improve the care and treatment.

Multiple Sclerosis is an incredibly mysterious disease. The exact cause is unknown with no single test to diagnose MS – and a cure is yet to be found. What we do know about the disease is that it is unpredictable and debilitating. MS is a neurological disease that affects the central nervous system. While symptoms vary from person to person, some of the most common are pain, fatigue, sight problems, mobility, and coordination. Basic everyday functions such as walking, talking, and seeing are all diminished. There are many emotional effects as well, such as stress, anxiety, depression, and extreme frustration. Currently many medical treatments are given to those suffering from MS that concentrate on symptom relief, treatment, and management.

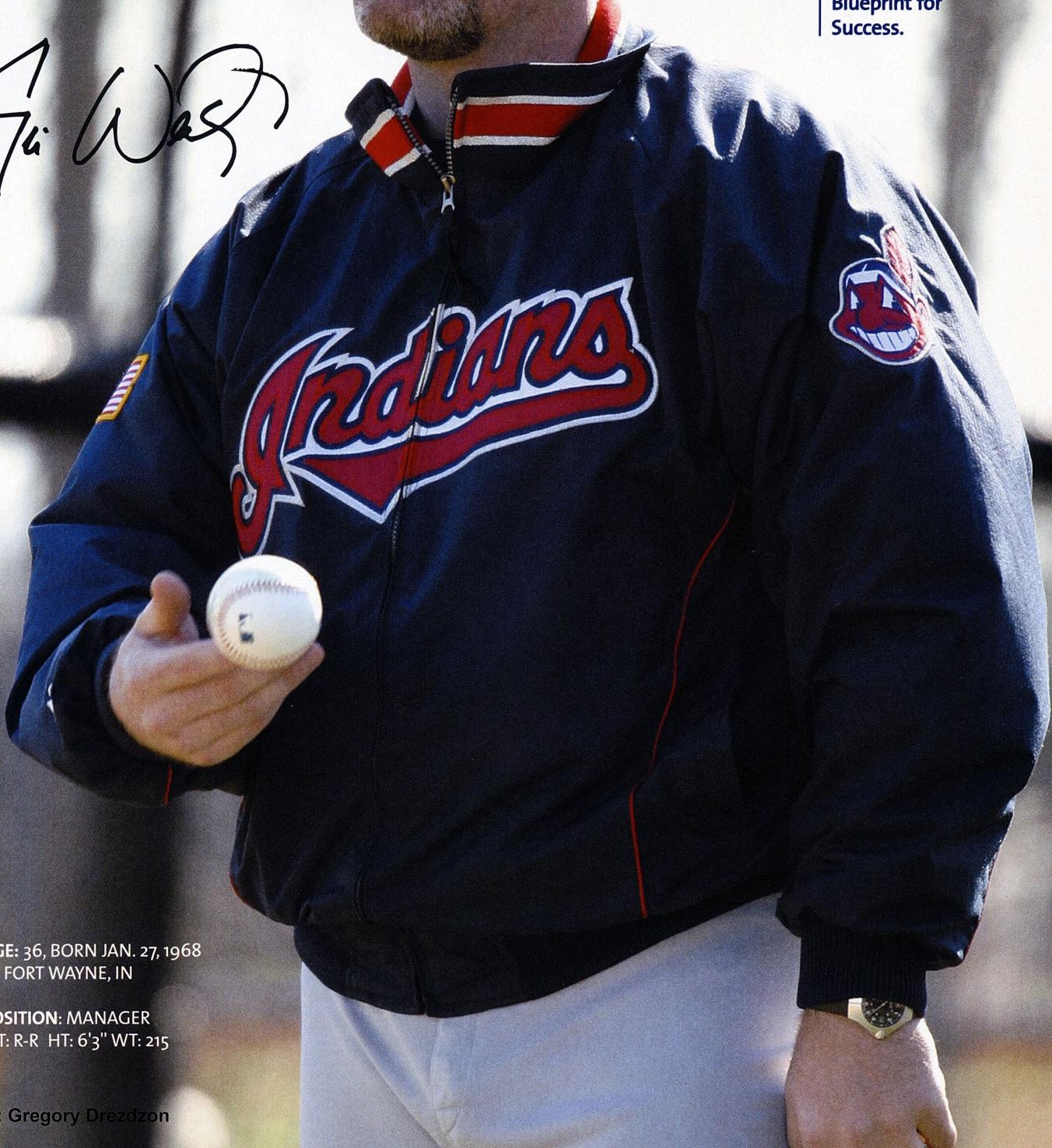
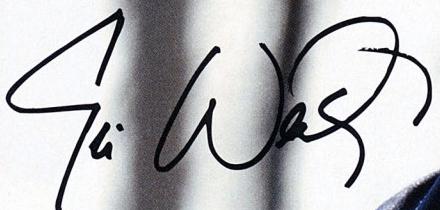
The NMSS is determined to find a cure, and dedicated to improving the quality of life for those afflicted. There are many ways you can help in this cause; opportunities to volunteer, donations, education. To learn more about how you can help, please visit the local Cleveland chapter's website at msohio.buckeye.org or call 1.800. 667.7131. Let's continue to support these research efforts and assist organizations who are dedicated to MS in hopes of someday finding a cure.

Kate Wedge

22

ERIC WEDGE

Named manager of the Cleveland Indians on October 29, 2002, to lead Phase II of the franchise's Blueprint for Success.



AGE: 36, BORN JAN. 27, 1968
IN FORT WAYNE, IN

POSITION: MANAGER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'3" WT: 215

RONNIE
BELLARD
20

AGE: 29, BORN APRIL 7, 1975
IN BRONX, NY

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: R-R HT: 5'8" WT: 197



Ronnie Bellard

RAFAEL BETANCOURT

63

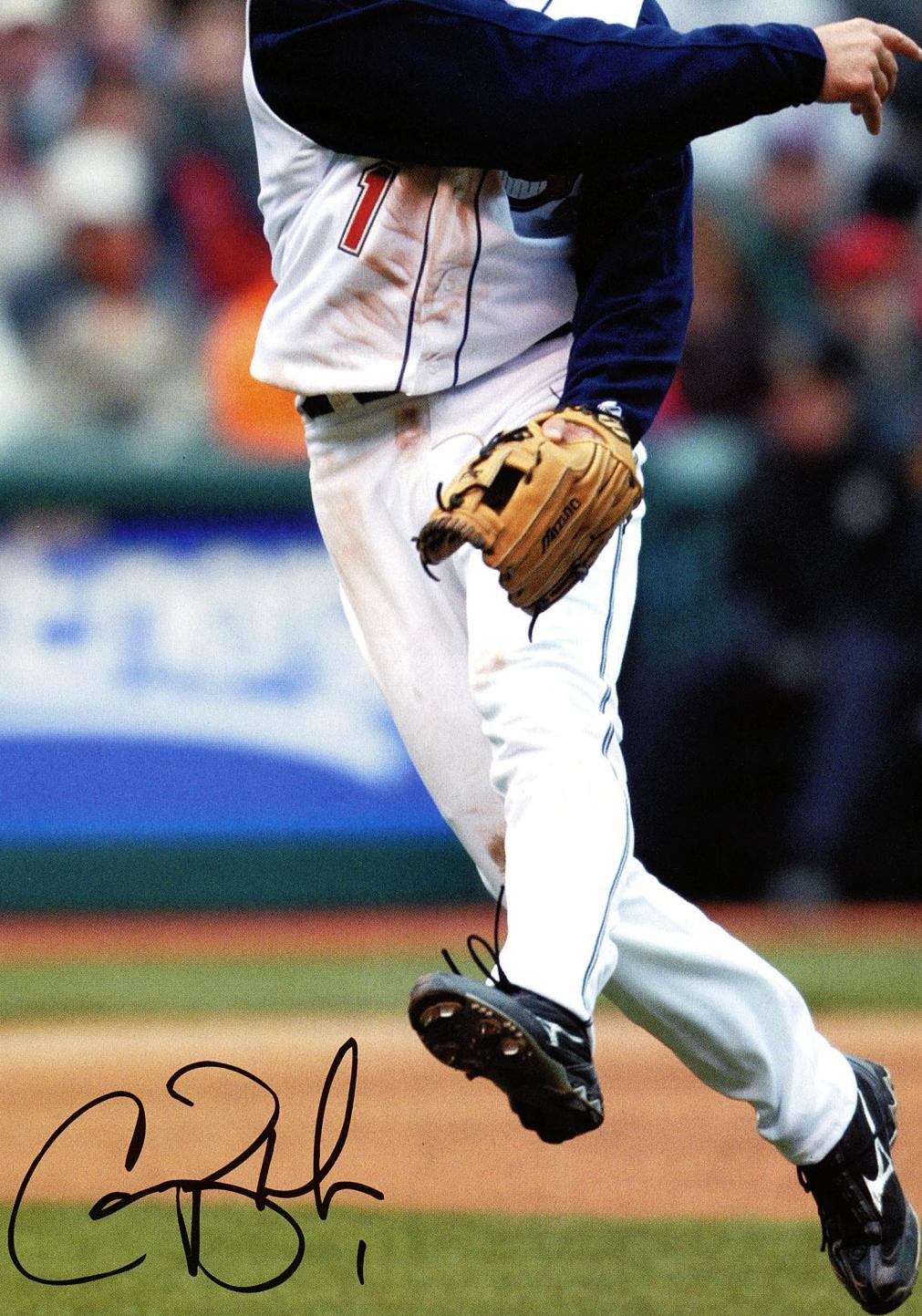
AGE: 25, BORN APRIL 9, 1975
IN LUMANA, VENEZUELA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'2" WT: 190



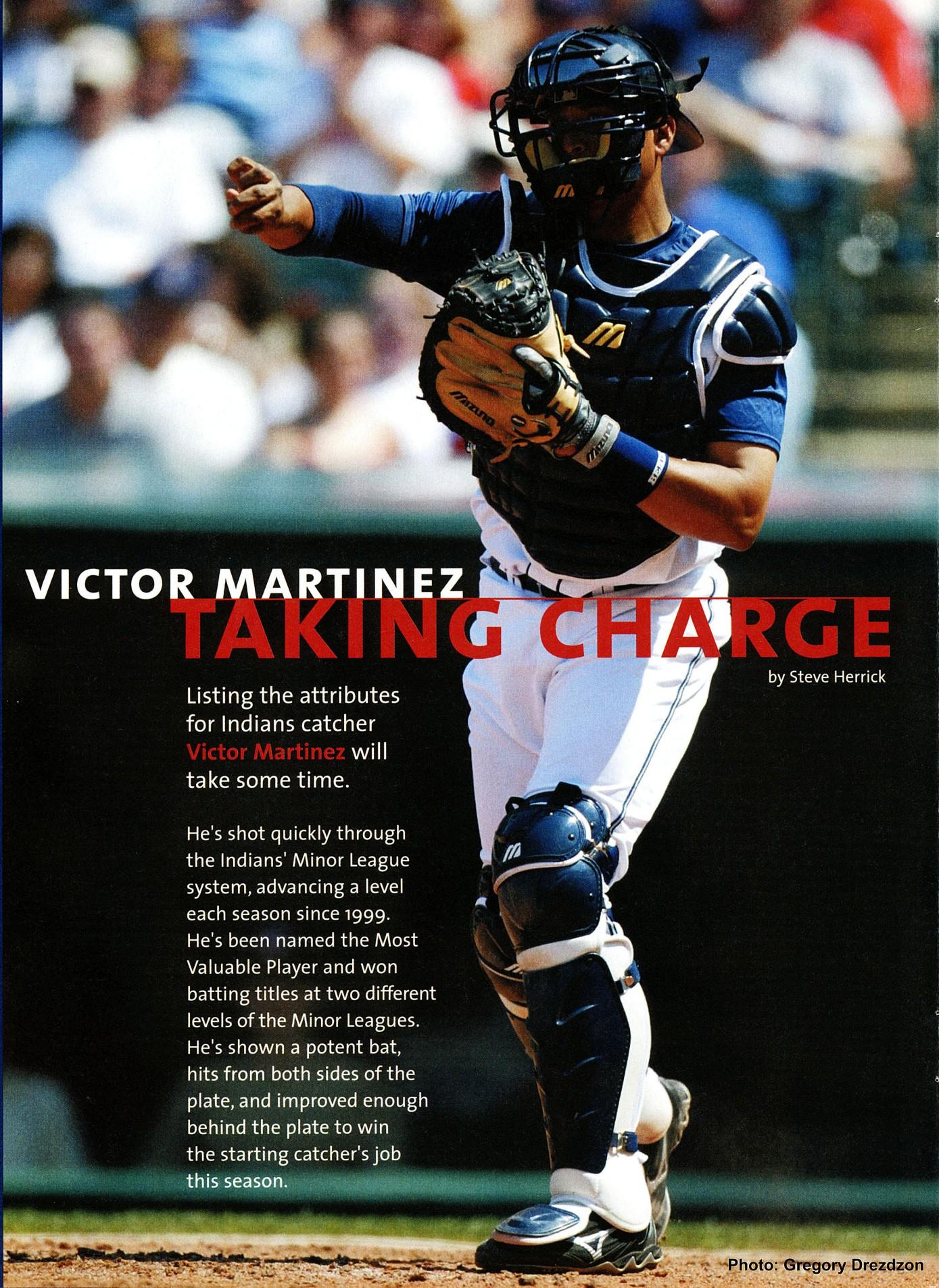
CASEY BLAKE

AGE: 30, BORN AUGUST 23, 1973
IN DES MOINES, IA
POSITION: INFIELDER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'2" WT: 210



CB

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



VICTOR MARTINEZ TAKING CHARGE

by Steve Herrick

Listing the attributes
for Indians catcher

Victor Martinez will
take some time.

He's shot quickly through
the Indians' Minor League
system, advancing a level
each season since 1999.

He's been named the Most
Valuable Player and won
batting titles at two different
levels of the Minor Leagues.
He's shown a potent bat,
hits from both sides of the
plate, and improved enough
behind the plate to win
the starting catcher's job
this season.

"He's a tremendous kid," said Indians assistant general manager Neal Huntington. "He's very respectful, and he has a quiet intensity about him. We've always loved his makeup. All of that makes us feel like he's one of our core players."

The Indians expect the 25-year-old Martinez, who is considered one of the top young players in baseball, to be behind the plate for a long time.

"I feel good about the way things are going, but I know I have to keep working every day," he said. "That's how I got here and I know I have to keep working."

As a former catcher himself, Indians manager Eric Wedge has high hopes for Martinez, even though he's being handed a full workload in his first full Major League season.

"That's a lot for him to learn," said Wedge. "It's tough for a young catcher because he needs to learn all the hitters in the league and he needs to learn all the pitchers, but Victor's doing a good job."

He's a tremendous kid

I feel good about the way things are going, but I know I have to keep working every day, that's how I got here and I know I have to keep working.



Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

"That's a lot of responsibility," said Huntington. "He has to know the hitters. He has to know his own pitchers inside and out and he has to know the opposing pitchers and how they will try to get him out."

Martinez thinks he's up to the challenge.

"I know it takes time to learn everything," he said. "I feel more comfortable after being up here the last two years."

Martinez was first called up from Class AA Akron in September of the 2002 season. He appeared in 12 games, batting .281 with a homer and five RBIs. He began last season at Class AAA Buffalo before being called up on June 27. He batted .289 with a homer and 16 RBIs in 49 games.

"Being here the last two seasons really helped," he said. "It's made me feel more comfortable. When I first came up, I was really nervous. I was playing in front of 40,000 people and I had never done that before, but now I feel a lot more comfortable with everything."

Martinez's adjustment has been helped by the fact he caught current Tribe pitchers C.C. Sabathia, Jason Davis, Jason Stanford, and Cliff Lee in the Minors.

"That's really helped me from a catching standpoint because I know what they like to do," he said.

"We've played together a lot," said Sabathia. "He's a great catcher. I like working with him. We know he's going to hit."

The Indians signed Martinez in 1996. He was a 17-year-old shortstop in Venezuela at the time and they asked him to switch to catcher. While there's never been much doubt about Martinez's bat, it's his improvement behind the plate that's impressed the Indians the most. When Martinez was sent to Buffalo before last season began, it was with a simple, but very clear message. Take charge behind the plate, run the game, get the most out of every pitcher on the staff, and improve your throwing.

"Last year we challenged him in Spring Training, but he went after it and worked on the things he needed to do," said Wedge.

"I spent most of my time last year working on my defense," said Martinez. "Sometimes I put aside my offense because I was working so hard on my defense. I know it's something I needed to do if I was going to get to the big leagues."

If a catcher is going to play for Wedge, being in charge behind the plate is a top priority.

"I'm trying to speak up more," said Martinez. "They want me to be a leader, so I'm trying to talk more. I really work on all parts of my defense. That means talking to people, calling the game, and taking control of things."

"I think Victor is a lot more assertive this year," said Wedge. "He does it in his own way. We want Victor to be himself, but at the same time take command of the game."

Indians backup catcher Tim Laker, who has been in professional ball since 1988, knows his way around behind the plate. He likes what he's seen from Martinez.

"He's throwing a lot better than he was last year," said Laker. "He worked a lot in the off-season. I think he has really good hands and he moves well around the plate."

Asked what Martinez has improved on the most defensively, Wedge said, "Everything. He's always had great hands, but he's quick as anyone I've seen at blocking balls in the dirt. His footwork has gotten a lot better."

"My arm action is shorter and quicker," said Martinez. "I've really worked hard on improving those things."

"I think he's only going to get better," said Laker. "He's still young. Calling a game is the hardest thing for a catcher to learn, but the only way to get better is to do it."

While the defensive improvements will make Martinez a more well rounded player, he will probably always be known for his bat. It's his offense that earned him attention around baseball the last few years and made him an untouchable in the Indians' eyes when it came to trade talks.

Playing for Class A Kinston in 2001, he led the Carolina League with a .329 average while hitting 10 homers and driving in 57 runs. At Class AA Akron the following season, he led the Eastern League with a .336 average with 22 homers and 85 RBI. Those numbers earned him MVP honors in both leagues. His hot hitting continued last season at Class AAA Buffalo. Martinez was hitting .328 with seven homers and 45 RBI in 73 games at the time he was called up. He hit safely in 24 of his last 26 Triple-A games, including the last 11. Martinez batted .437 (45-for-103) in 25 games in June, raising his average from .263 to .328.

Martinez got off to a slow start with the Indians, hitting .224 (17-for-76) over 23 games from June 27 to July 31 before adjusting to big league pitching. From August 1 through the end of the season, he hit .349 (29-for-83) and hit safely in 24 of his last 25 games. That included two 12-game hitting streaks. He hit .405 (15-for-37) in the first streak and .311 (14-for-45) in the second one.

"Victor has a lot of ability to swing the bat," said Huntington. "He has a beautiful swing. He deserves a lot of credit for learning how to be patient and attacking his pitch when he gets it."

***"I like to hit," said Martinez.
"That is something extra I think
I can bring to the team. I'm
learning on offense too. I've just
tried to put my bat on the ball.
Now, I'm learning which pitches
to expect in which count."***

Victor has a lot of ability to swing the bat



Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

Catchers who put up big offensive numbers are becoming a rarity in baseball these days. Catchers who can do that while switch-hitting are almost extinct.

"You can't beat that," said Laker. "You can stay in this game a long time. I wish I could switch-hit, but it's too late for me."

"That's a separator," said Wedge. "There's no doubt about it. To be that all-around is a tough thing to find."

In preparing for his chance to win the catcher's job, Martinez spent the off-season in Cleveland working with Indians strength and conditioning coach Tim Maxey.

"I was here most of the winter," said the 6-foot-2, 195-pound Martinez. "I was lifting weights and running. I worked hard in the weight room and reshaped my body."

"He basically lived here during the off-season," said Huntington. "He did a lot of work. He added muscle and is moving and running better."

Martinez's first Major League hit and RBI came on September 10, 2002 when he singled off Toronto's Justin Miller. To date, his most memorable moment in the Majors came on September 29 when he hit his first home run off Kansas City's Darrell May.

"I'll always remember that," he said. "Running around the bases was a big thrill."

Another memorable moment will come in September. Martinez and his wife Margaret are expecting their first child, a boy.

"I'm really excited about that," he said.

If all goes as planned, there will be many exciting moments in the future for Martinez, the Indians, and all Tribe fans.



Photos: Gregory Drezdzon

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Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

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I want to run the bases!



JODY
GERUT

9

AGE: 26, BORN SEPT. 18, 1977
IN ELMHURST, IL

POSITION: OUTFIELDER
B-T: L-L HT: 6'0" WT: 190



Jody Gerut
9

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

JACK CRESSEND

27
AGE: 28, BORN MAY 13, 1975
IN NEW ORLEANS, LA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'1" WT: 185

Jack Cressend

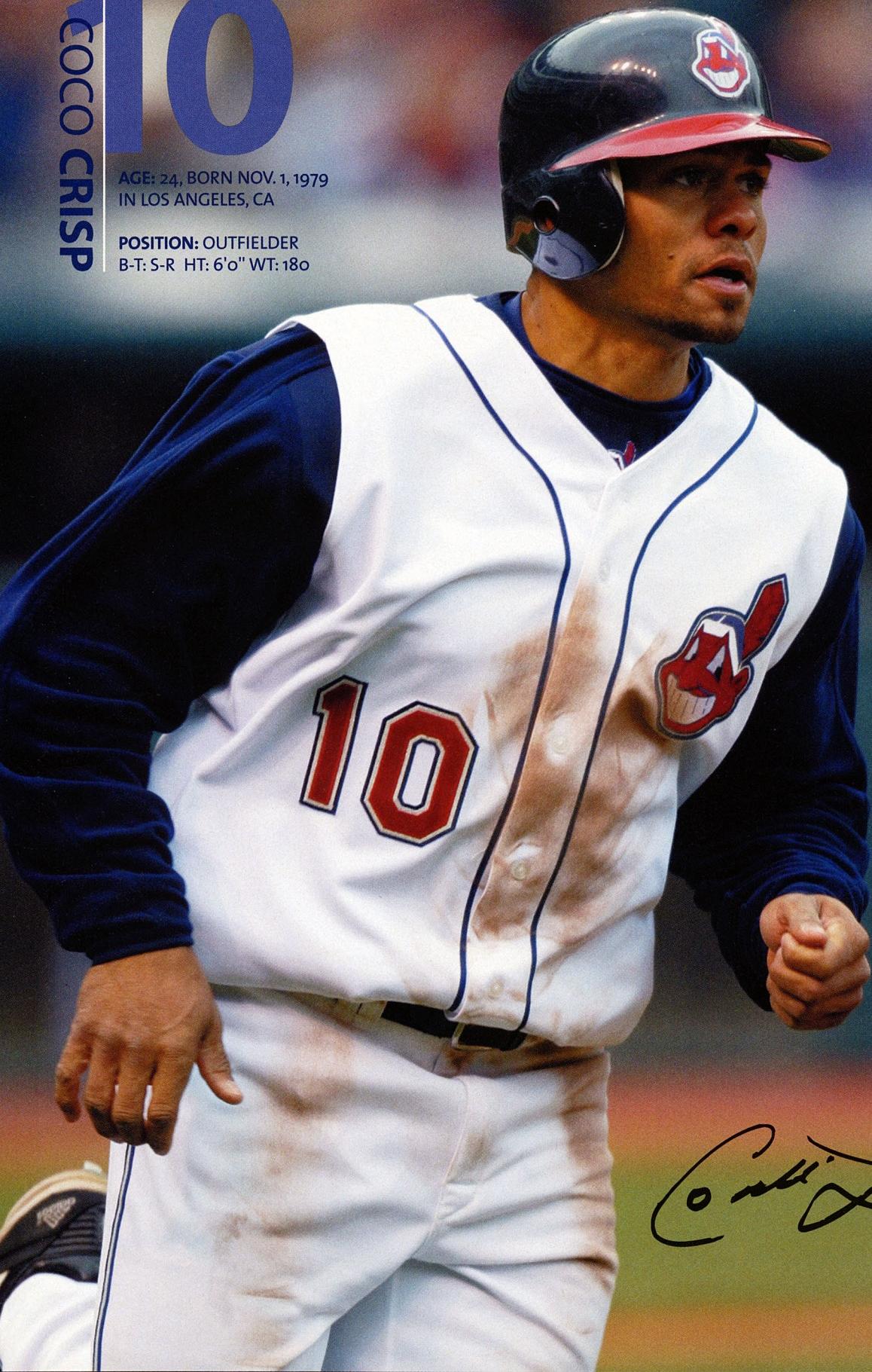


COCO CRISP

10

AGE: 24, BORN NOV. 1, 1979
IN LOS ANGELES, CA

POSITION: OUTFIELDER
B-T: S-R HT: 6'0" WT: 180



Crisp '10

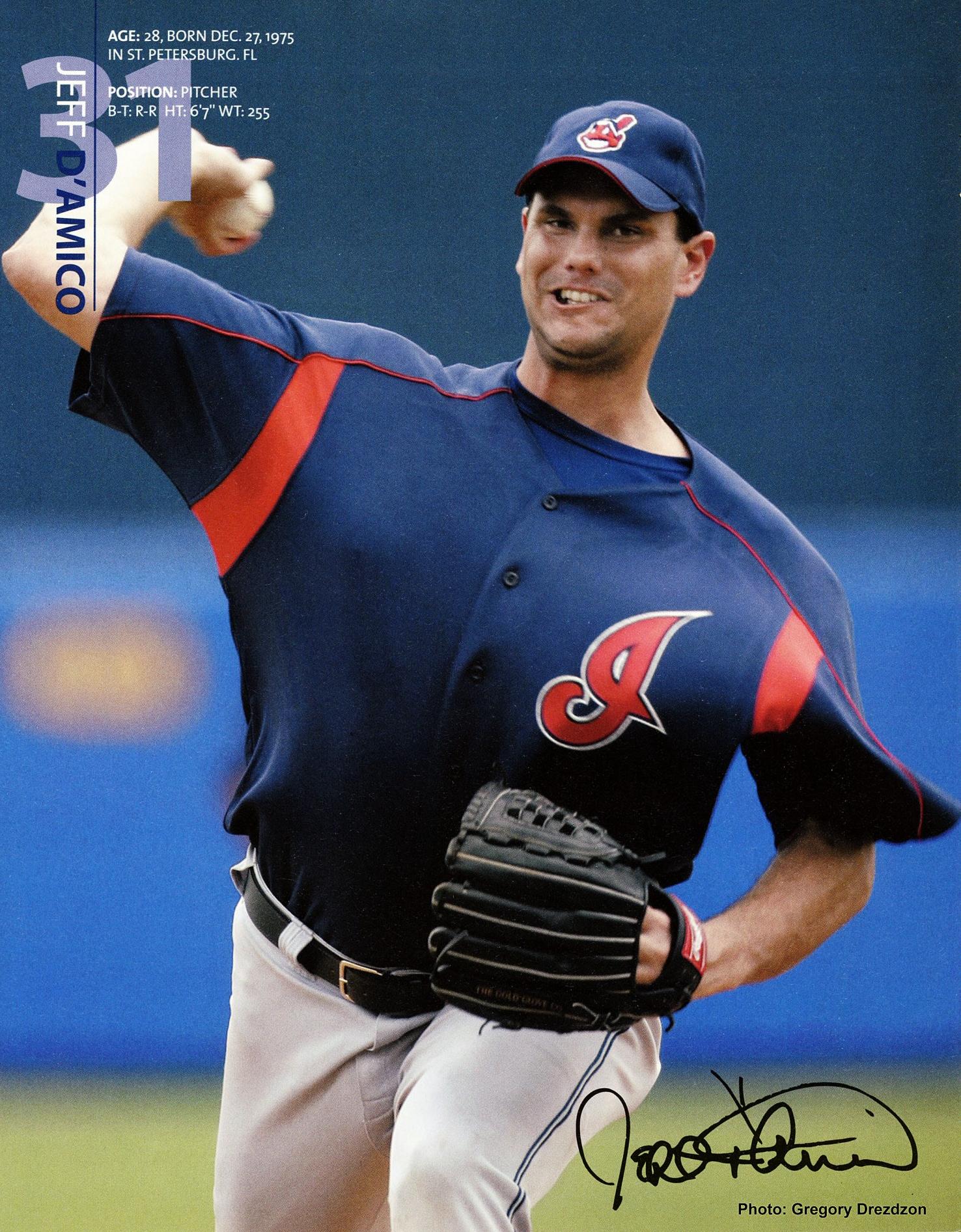
Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

AGE: 28, BORN DEC. 27, 1975
IN ST. PETERSBURG, FL

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'7" WT: 255

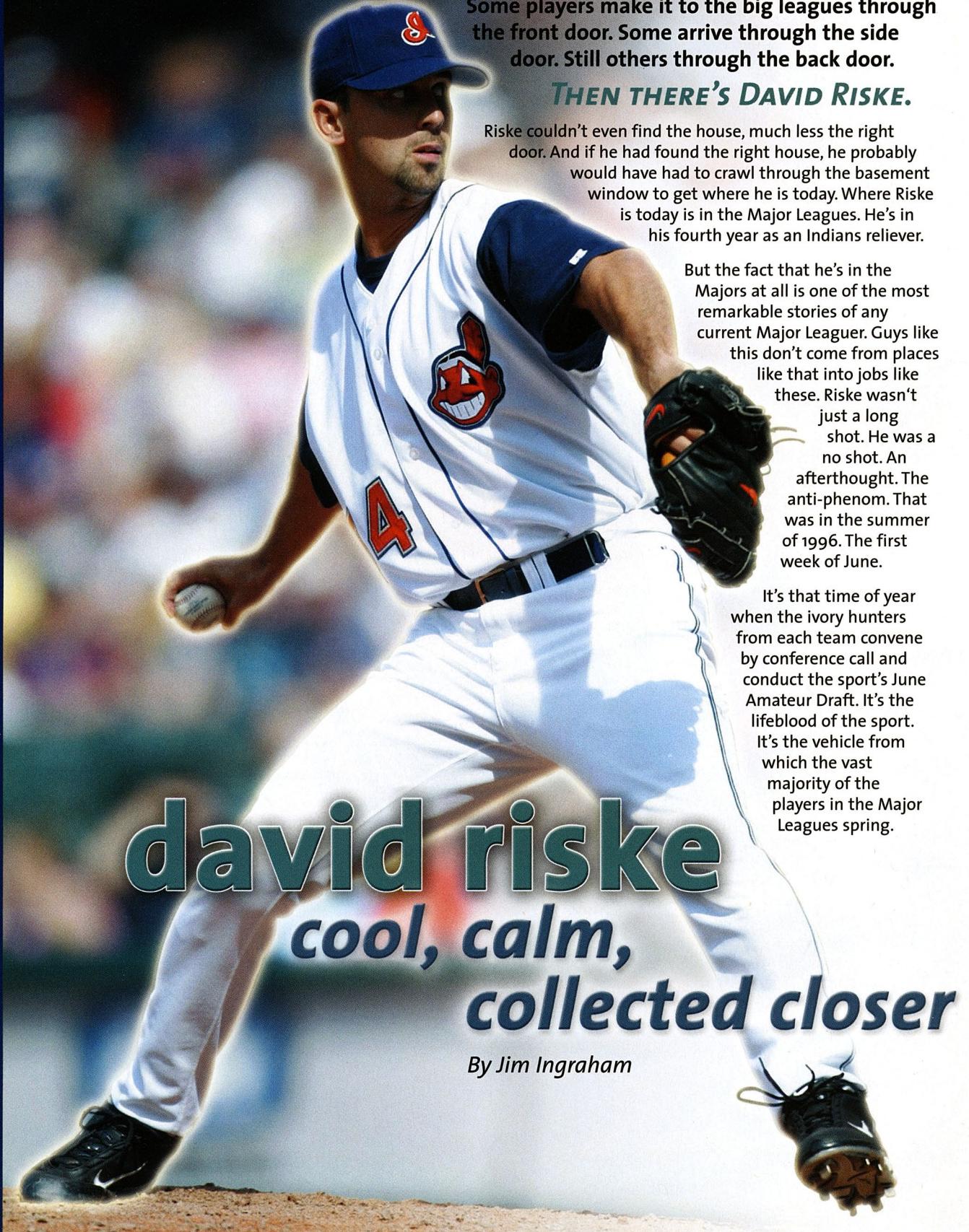
JEFF D'AMICO

31



Jeff D'Amico

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



Some players make it to the big leagues through the front door. Some arrive through the side door. Still others through the back door.

THEN THERE'S DAVID RISKE.

Riske couldn't even find the house, much less the right door. And if he had found the right house, he probably would have had to crawl through the basement window to get where he is today. Where Riske is today is in the Major Leagues. He's in his fourth year as an Indians reliever.

But the fact that he's in the Majors at all is one of the most remarkable stories of any current Major Leaguer. Guys like this don't come from places like that into jobs like these. Riske wasn't just a long shot. He was a no shot. An afterthought. The anti-phenom. That was in the summer of 1996. The first week of June.

It's that time of year when the ivory hunters from each team convene by conference call and conduct the sport's June Amateur Draft. It's the lifeblood of the sport. It's the vehicle from which the vast majority of the players in the Major Leagues spring.

david riske *cool, calm, collected closer*

By Jim Ingraham

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

For three days the 30 teams take turns drafting high school and college players. There is no limit to how long the draft goes. Unlike the National Basketball Association draft, which lasts two rounds, or the National Football League Draft, which consists of seven rounds.

Ten rounds, 20 rounds, 30 rounds, it seemingly goes on forever. Forty rounds, who knows when it will end? The teams continue to select players until all the teams agree that there are no longer any players worth selecting.

It was at just about that point of the 1996 June Draft, that Riske heard his name finally called. Actually, he didn't hear his name called at all, because by that time Riske had lost interest.

"When I didn't get picked in the first two days of the draft, I just said to myself, 'This is crazy. I'm going to go to school. This is way too late to be drafted,'" he said.

Finally, on the third day of the draft, in the 56th round—when scouting directors typically start drafting in-laws, friends of the family, and anyone with a cool sounding name—Indians' scouting director said into the speaker phone, "The Cleveland Indians select right-handed pitcher David Riske, from Green River Community College."

Riske was the 1,559th player selected in that draft. He's now in his fourth season in the Major Leagues. Go figure.

"At that point I was thinking, 'Who cares?'" said Riske. "It's not like I was ecstatic to be picked in the 56th round." Which is not to say that baseball teams don't occasionally find diamonds in the rough. In the 62nd round of the 1988 June Draft the Los Angeles Dodgers selected a catcher/first baseman from Miami-Dade North Community College. That was Mike Piazza.

"I get kidded about it a lot," said Riske, who can laugh about it now. "When I was coming up through the Minor Leagues, we'd be sitting around talking about the different bonuses everyone got, and then I'd look around and say, 'Geez, I was a 56th round pick', and guys would look at me like I was crazy."

In Little League, all the way up through high school Riske was not a pitcher, but a shortstop. And a good one. At Lindbergh High School, in Renton Washington, Riske was a four-time All-State shortstop, and a .400 hitter.

"In high school I barely pitched at all. I was a shortstop mostly, although I would come into games as a pitcher in certain situations."



Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

"Pro Scouts would tell me, 'You should be pitching. Your future is as a pitcher. You don't have enough power for a shortstop,'" he said.

After high school Riske enrolled at Green River Community College, outside of Seattle. It was there that his pitching career began in earnest. After two years at Green River, Riske was recruited by the University of Washington, Washington State, and Arizona State, but he decided instead to accept an offer from Texas Tech University – where he would have been a teammate of future Indians teammate Josh Bard.

But then came the June 1996 Draft.

"Obviously, that was a big letdown, getting picked in the 56th round. I really intended to go to Texas Tech," Riske said. "But then I pitched in a summer league that year against some good Division I college players, and did really well."

Following the 1996 season, the Indians offered him a \$75,000 signing bonus, which is modest for anyone taken in the first 15 rounds of the draft, but gigantic money for a player taken in round No.56.

Riske accepted the bonus, sent his regards to Texas Tech, and began his professional career.

If anyone was a long shot from that draft, it was Riske. Everyone seemed to know that but Riske himself. Teams normally give drafted players a handful of years in the Minors to prove whether or not they have the potential to be future big leaguers.

But the higher the draft pick, the more patience teams have. A 56th round pick, obviously, has far less time to prove him than a first-rounder.

"I never even thought of that," said Riske. "I was just so excited to be in professional baseball. I had no idea how hard it would be to get to the Major Leagues." Not that the Major Leagues were completely foreign to Riske. As a kid, growing up outside of Seattle, Riske was a huge Mariners fan.

"My friends and I would go to Mariners games at the Kingdome all the time," he said. "My two favorite players were Omar (Vizquel) and Ken Griffey Jr., although I've never told Omar that."

Almost nothing about Riske's path to the Major Leagues was normal. Not only was he one of the last players selected in the June Draft, he has spent his entire career as a reliever. Most pitchers begin their careers as starters, and then, for a variety of reasons, a percentage of them get converted into relievers.

Not Riske. He was a reliever from day one. "I'm not sure why that happened," he said. "I went right into relieving, right from the start. It just felt normal. My arm bounced back easily."

After averaging 11.3 strikeouts per nine innings in 39 games for Class-A Kinston in 1997, Riske returned to

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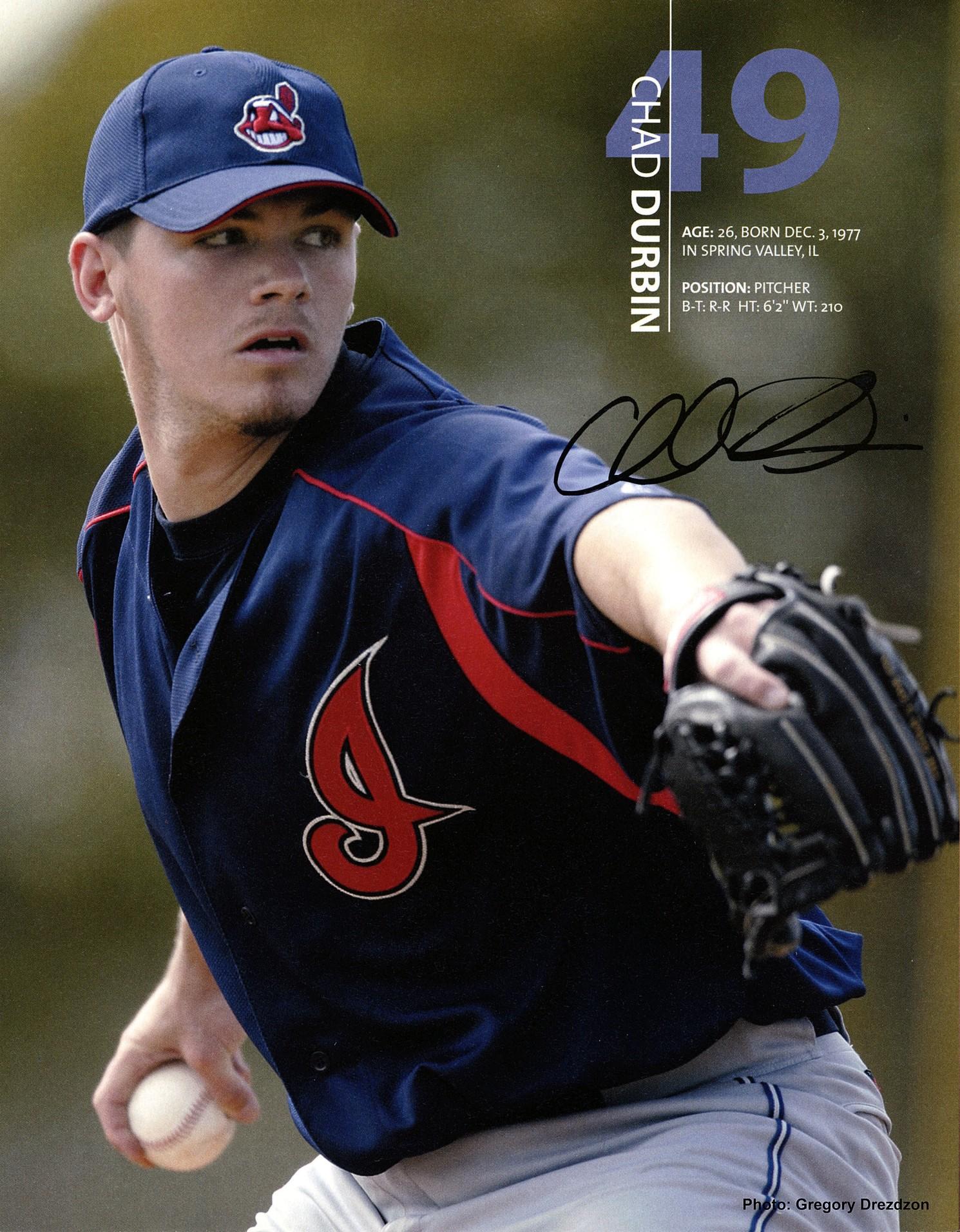
Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

50

JASON DAVIS

AGE: 23, BORN MAY 8, 1980
IN CHATTANOOGA, TN

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'6" WT: 230

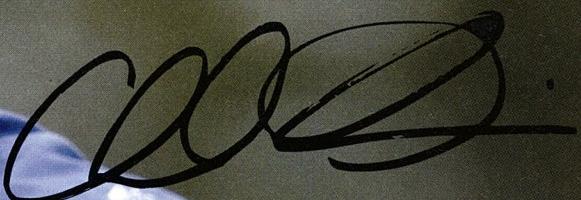


49

CHAD DURBIN

AGE: 26, BORN DEC. 3, 1977
IN SPRING VALLEY, IL

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'2" WT: 210

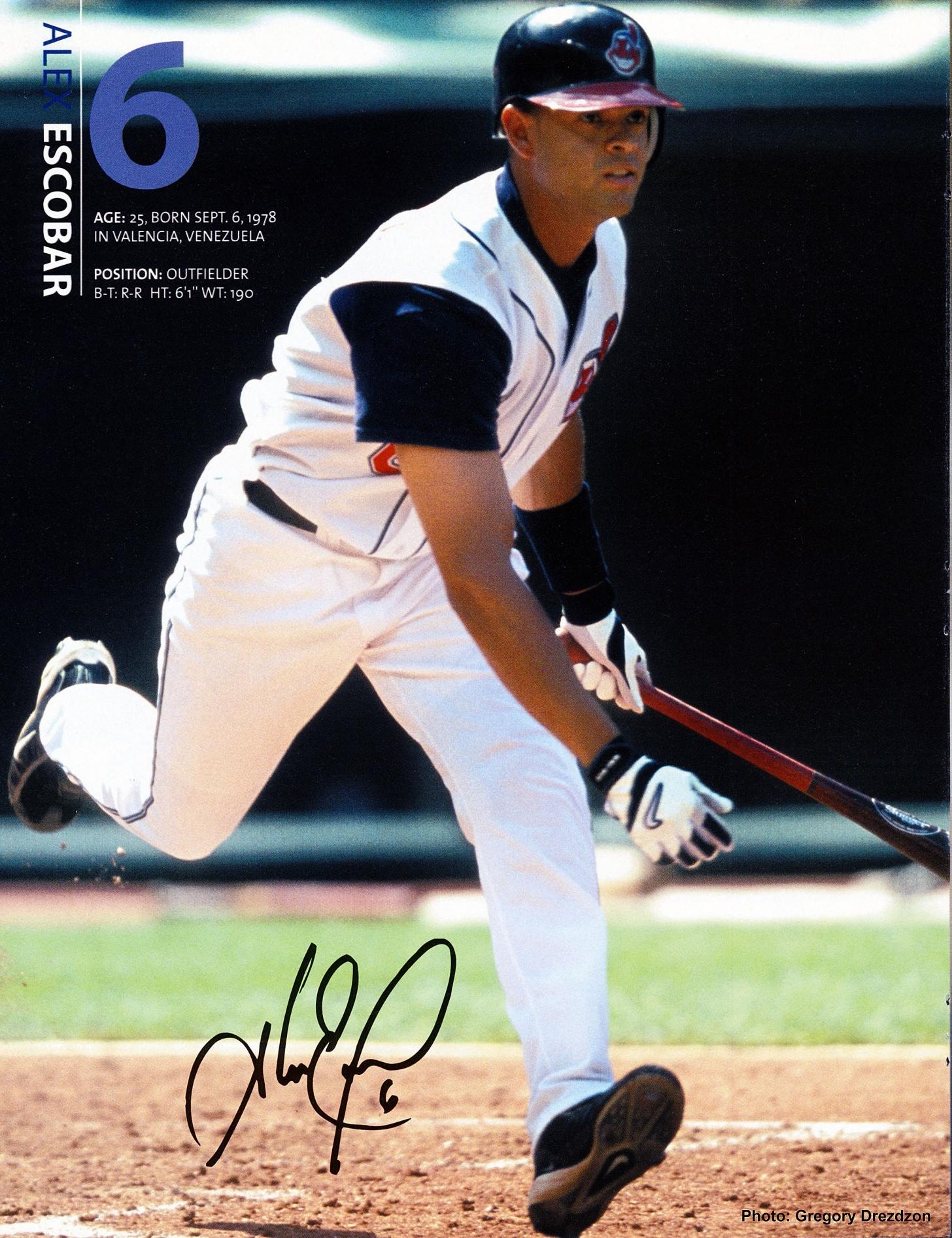


ALEX ESCOBAR

6

AGE: 25, BORN SEPT. 6, 1978
IN VALENCIA, VENEZUELA

POSITION: OUTFIELDER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'1" WT: 190



Alex Escobar

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

BEN BROUSSARD

AGE: 27, BORN SEPT. 24, 1976
IN BEAUMONT, TX

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: L-L HT: 6'2" WT: 220

13



B.B.

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

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presented by



Photo: Gregory Drezdon

Jacobs Field Tours

Jacobs Field tours include a visit to the Press Box, Bullpen, Club Lounge, Dugout, Batting Cages, and Party Suite. The Visitors Clubhouse is included in tours of Jacobs Field on select dates. (The tour route is subject to change.)

Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$4.50 for youths 14 and under and senior citizens 60 and over. A group rate is available at 1:00 PM each day. Tour tickets are available at any Indians Team Shop, at the Jacobs Field Main Box Office, at any Northern Ohio OfficeMax, or at indians.com. (The group rate is only available at the Jacobs Field Main Box Office.)

With support from

OfficeMax

a special school tour program is also available in April, May, early June, and all of

September. Teachers will receive *Team Teacher*, a specially created, baseball-themed book of curriculum, when they book their class for a tour. Teachers interested in bringing their class to Jacobs Field for a field trip they'll never forget should call to plan ahead to book their date and time.

For more information on Jacobs Field tours, call 216-420-4385.

APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER—A LOT OF HISTORY HAS HAPPENED IN 10 YEARS AT THE CORNER OF EAST 9TH STREET AND CARNEGIE. TAKE A SNEAK PEEK BEHIND THE SCENES WITH A TOUR OF ONE OF BASEBALL'S GREATEST BALLPARKS. TOURS ARE AVAILABLE MAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. SATURDAY TOURS ARE AVAILABLE WHEN THE TEAM IS ON THE ROAD. TOURS ACCOMMODATE UP TO 40 PEOPLE, LAST APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR, ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE, AND DEPART FROM THE JACOBS FIELD TEAM SHOP. STILL AND VIDEO CAMERAS ARE WELCOME.



PEPSI CORPORATE HITTING CHALLENGE

August 6-8—Batter up for the ninth annual Pepsi Corporate Hitting Challenge! This unique event offers teams of nine batters and three alternates the chance to step up to the plate at Jacobs Field in a hitting tournament. Registration includes practice time in the batting cages, your name on the scoreboard, commemorative gift, prizes each round, and more. The 2003 tournament winner was Pepsi, with Key in second place.



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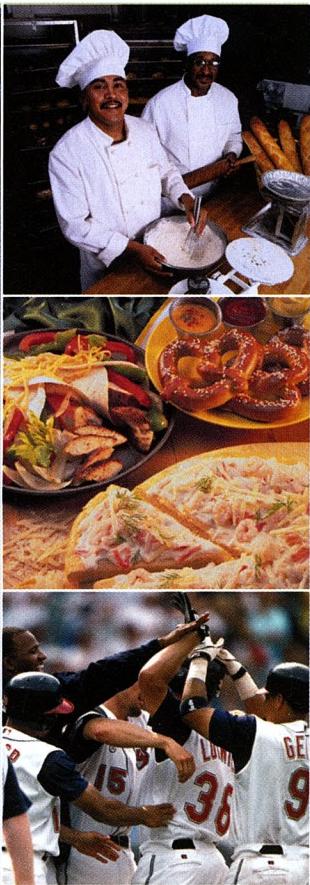
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Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



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48
TRAVIS HAFNER

AGE: 26, BORN JUNE 3, 1977
IN JAMESTOWN, ND

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: L-R HT: 6'3" WT: 240



Travis Hafner

JOSE JIMENEZ 36

AGE: 30, BORN JULY 7, 1973
IN SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS, DR

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'3" WT: 230

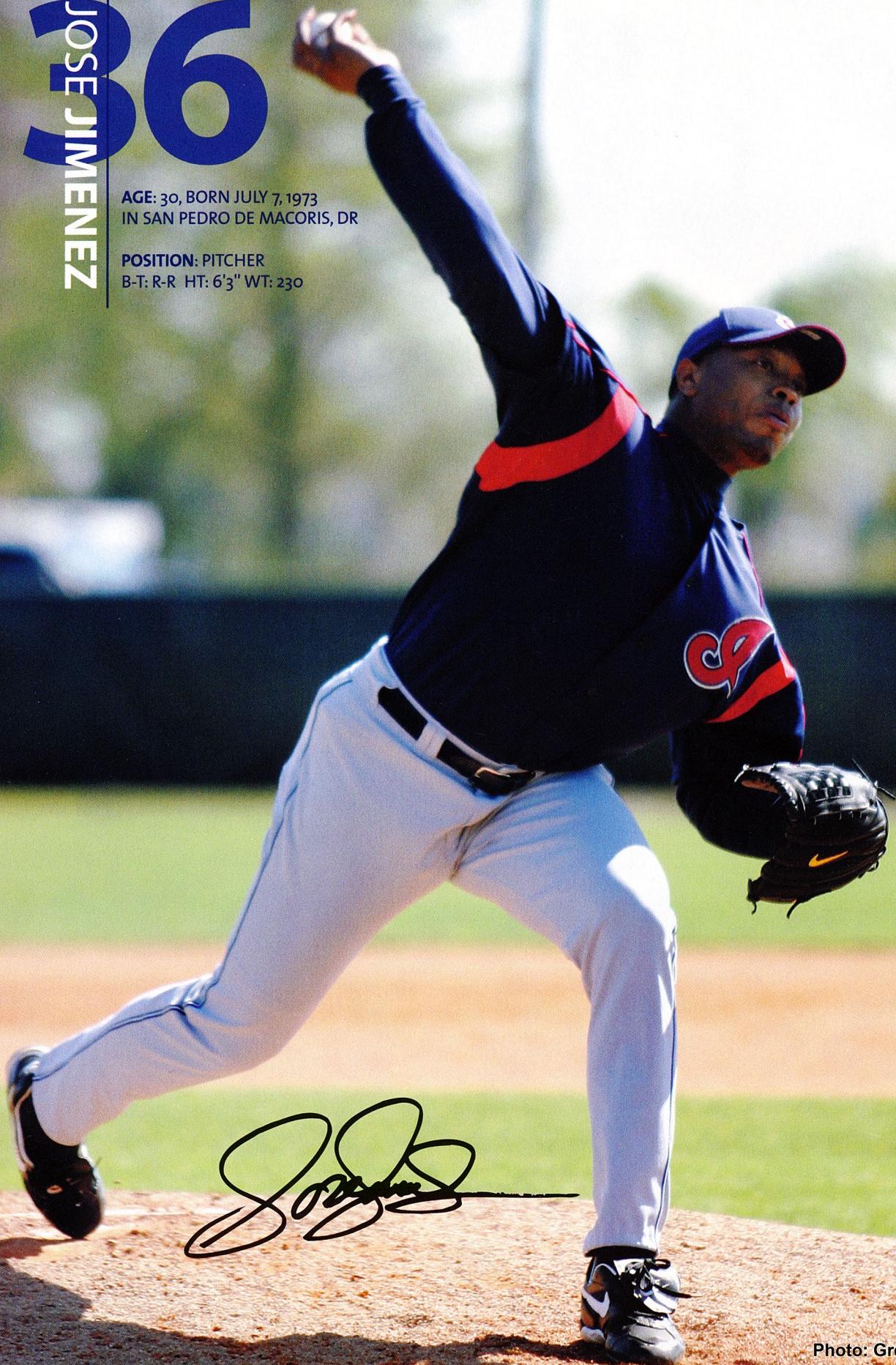


Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

TIM LAKER

15

AGE: 34, BORN NOV. 27, 1969
ENCINO, CA

POSITION: CATCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'3" WT: 225



Tim Laker

Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

11
MATT LAWTON

AGE: 32, BORN NOV. 3, 1971
IN GULFPORT, MS

POSITION: OUTFIELDER
B-T: L-R HT: 5'10" WT: 195



Matt Lawton
11

CLIFF LEE
34

AGE: 25, BORN AUGUST 30, 1978
IN BENTON, AR

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: L-L HT: 6'3" WT: 190



WHAT ★ SAY THE STARS FOR TRIBE STARS?

by Andrea Mallis

Taurus is known for steadiness, dedication, and persistence. A determined earth sign that's slow to change, Taurus likes the good things in life, and they usually focus energy on acquiring material possessions. Deeply appreciative of the natural world, nature soothes their spirits, as do music, art, and rich food. Their temperament is like a mellow Ferdinand the Bull.

Taurus

JASON DAVIS

Gregory Drezdzon



BORN MAY 8,
CHATTANOOGA, TN

Born one week after Marlins World Series ace Josh Beckett, Jason is a determined Taurus on a dramatic career ascent. A steadfast soul known for endurance, Jason is one of the Tribe's most consistent starting pitchers. In his first full season in the Majors, he led all American League Rookie Pitchers with 165 innings pitched. Not bad for a former basketball player! He possesses self-discipline, concentration, and perseverance. With Mars in Virgo, he strives for accuracy. An industrious attitude pervades, as past action bears fruit. Exhibiting wisdom borne of experience, he approaches goals methodically.

JACK CRESSEND

Gregory Drezdzon



BORN MAY 13,
NEW ORLEANS, LA

Another hard-working Taurus, stability and reliability are his cornerstones. Yet, with several planets in variable Gemini, Jack's a free thinker, constantly seeking data. This curious combo mixes stability with instability, but Taurus has a calming effect on nervous Gemini. With Mars in sensitive Pisces, physical energies ebb and flow, and it's important to recharge batteries. This resolute middle innings reliever allowed only 5 out of 20 inherited runners to score last season. Even more purposeful now, he combines a realistic idea of capabilities, with plenty of hard work, along with a good understanding of when to take time out to smell the roses.

Living by their wits, Gemini is the natural communicator of the zodiac. Curious Gemini is always eager for new experiences. Gemini's crave frequent change, and enjoy meeting new people. Variety is the spice of life for the Jack/Jill of all trades, and the diverse baseball life is a perfect fit. With enough energy for two people, there's never a dull moment with the eternal child of the zodiac.

Gemini

JASON BERE

Gregory Drezdzon



BORN MAY 26,
CAMBRIDGE, MA

Outgoing Jason has a strong need to interact with people. As versatile Gemini enjoys mixing and matching, dexterous Jason has one of the best "foshes" (forkball/change-ups) in the game. With Mars (planet of energy) in Aquarius, energy level is high but somewhat erratic, and Jason can become impatient while pursuing aims. Last season, Jason pitched only 6.2 innings because of shoulder surgery. This season unexpected events will test Jason's ability to withstand change and stay on the path he's chosen. If he can perform tasks in the face of challenges, this can be a productive year.

JHONNY PERALTA

Gregory Drezdzon



BORN MAY 28,
SANTIAGO,
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Precocious Gemini Jhonny arrived in the Majors one year early last season, and ended the year as the youngest position player to appear in the American League. Gemini is ruled by the hands, and nimble shortstop Jhonny boasted an impressive 976 fielding %. Excelling at physical activities that require fast reflexes, this agile jackrabbit can also hit for power. Blessed with an abundance of vitality, he's a real go-getter. Relishing competition, his initiative and self-confidence makes him a winner. Ever-resourceful, he'll go with the flow.

8

JOHN McDONALD

AGE: 29, BORN SEPT. 24, 1974
IN NEW LONDON, CT

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: R-R HT: 5'11" WT: 175

JohnMcDonald

VICTOR MARTINEZ

41

AGE: 25, BORN DEC. 23, 1978
IN CIUDAD BOLIVAR,
VENEZUELA

POSITION: CATCHER
B-T: S-R HT: 6'2" WT: 190

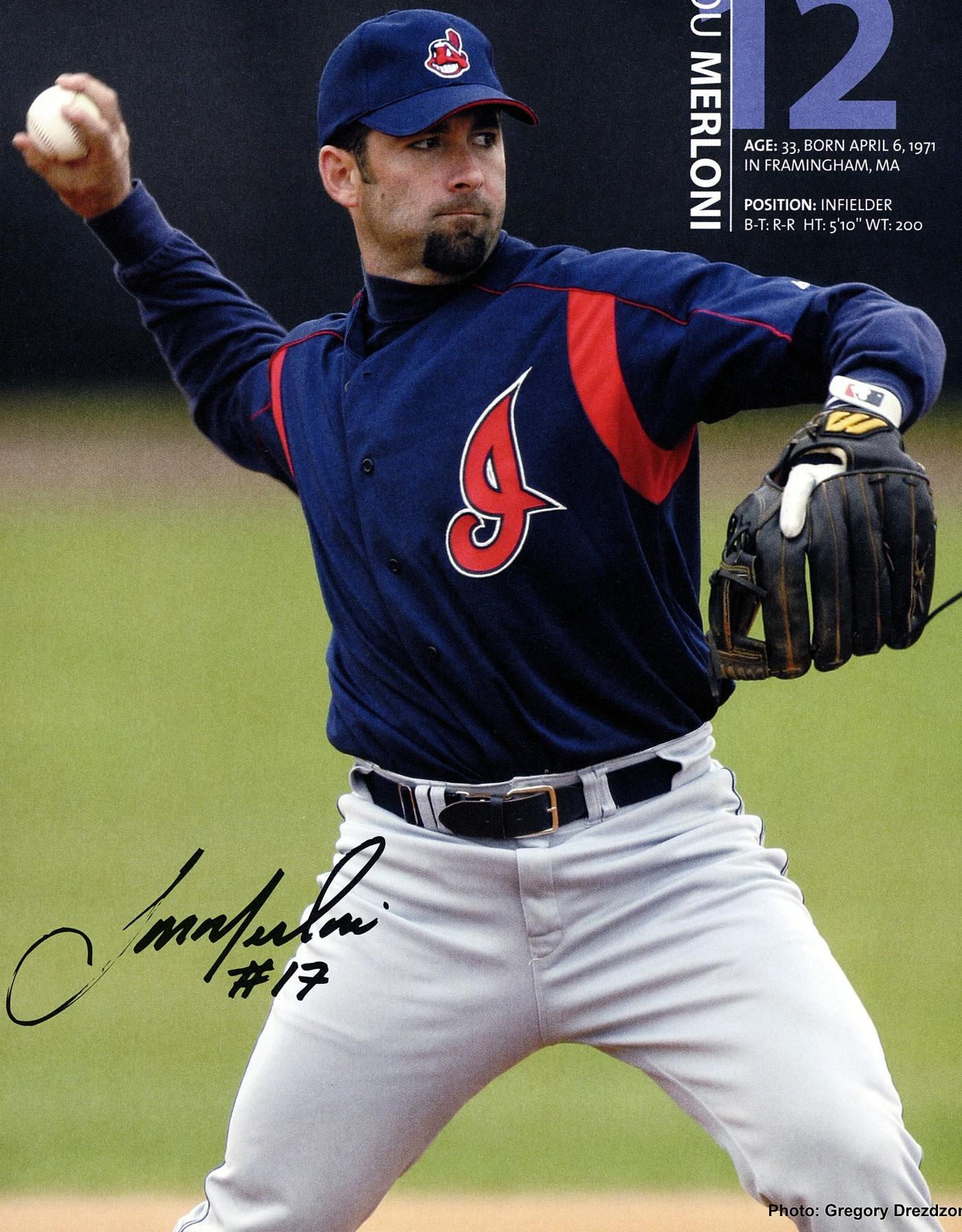


Victor Martinez
#41

LOU MERLONI

12
AGE: 33, BORN APRIL 6, 1971
IN FRAMINGHAM, MA

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: R-R HT: 5'10" WT: 200



Lou Merloni
#12

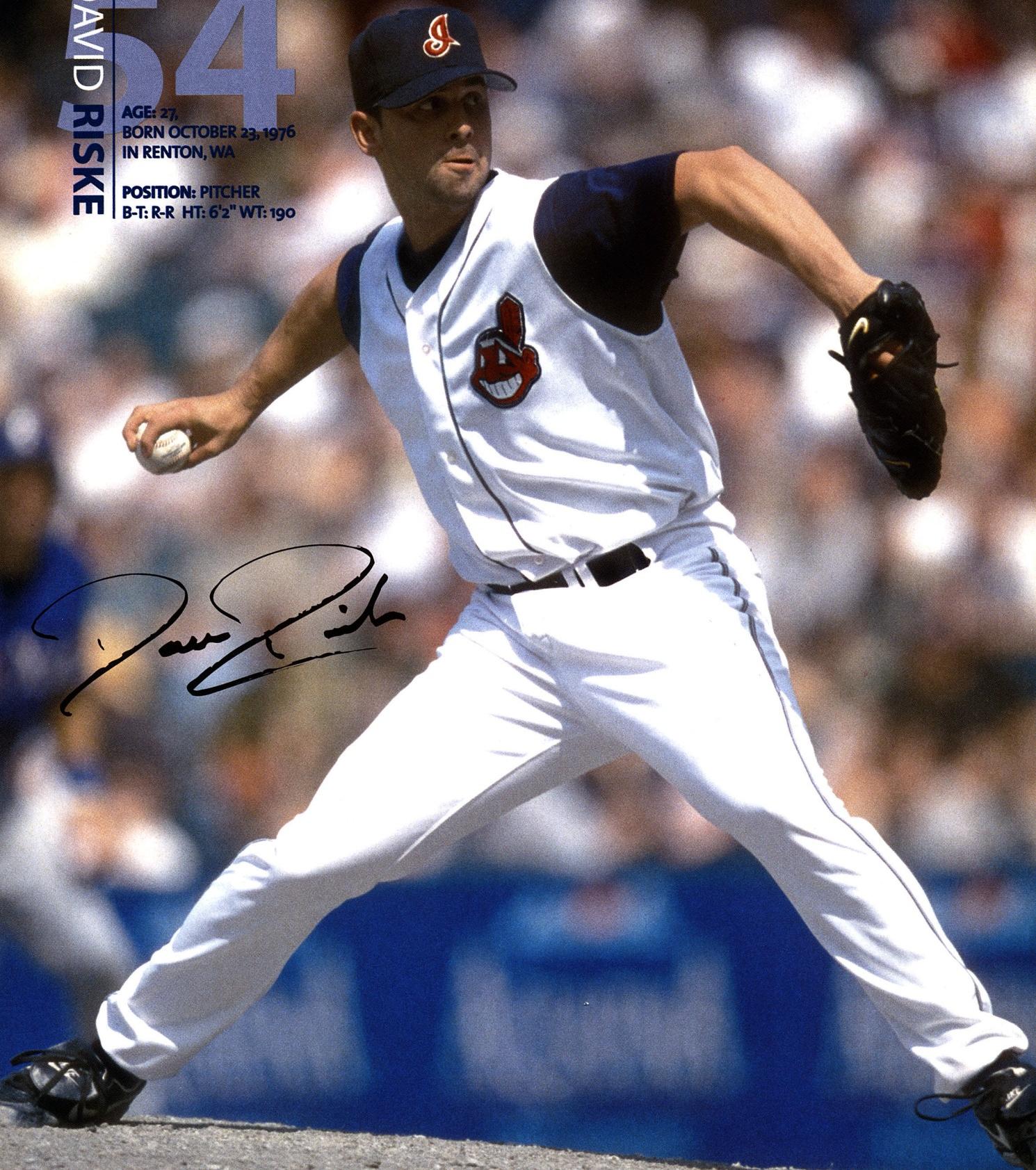
DAVID
RISKE

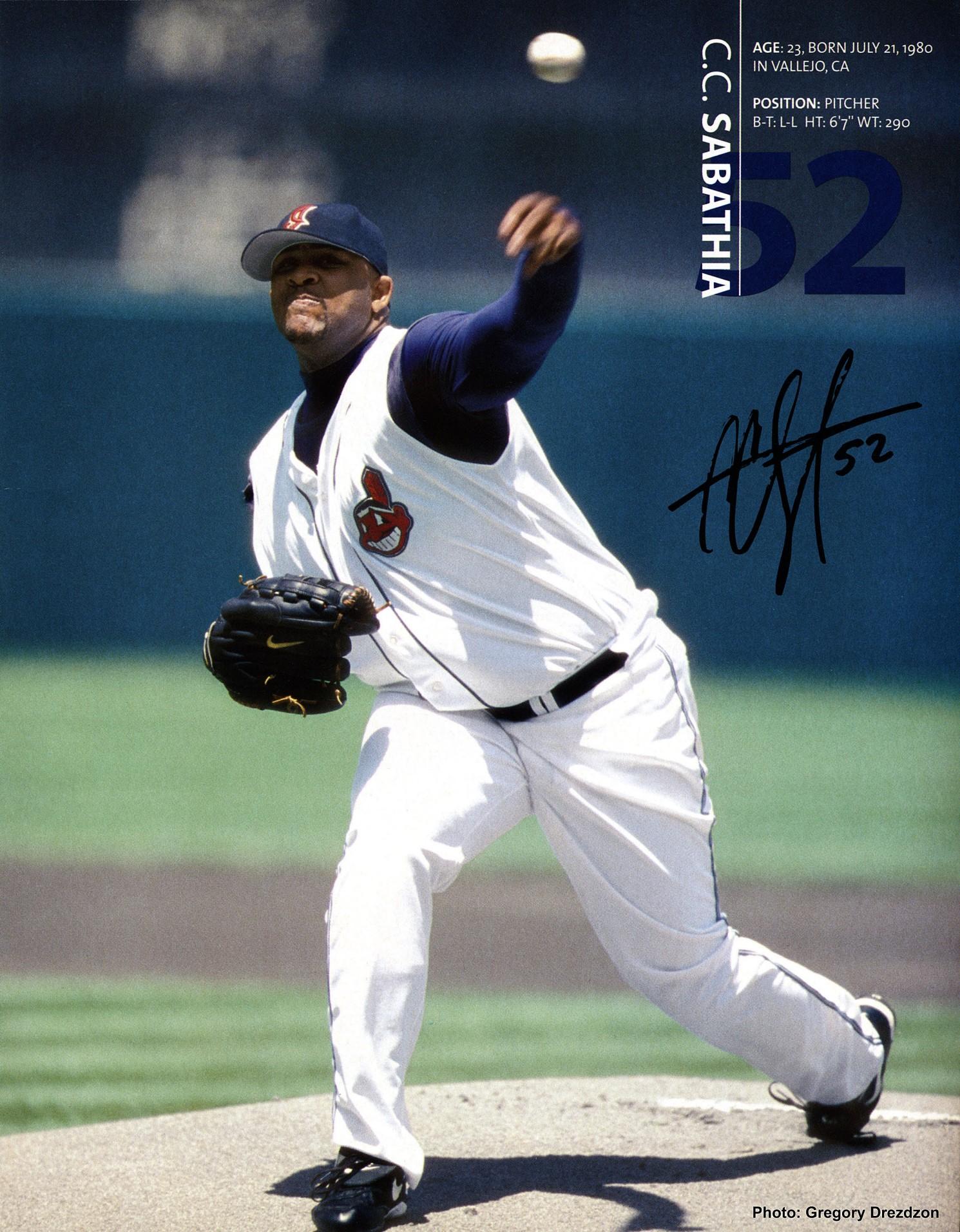
54

AGE: 27,
BORN OCTOBER 23, 1976
IN RENTON, WA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'2" WT: 190

David Riske





AGE: 23, BORN JULY 21, 1980
IN VALLEJO, CA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: L-L HT: 6'7" WT: 290

C.C. SABATHIA

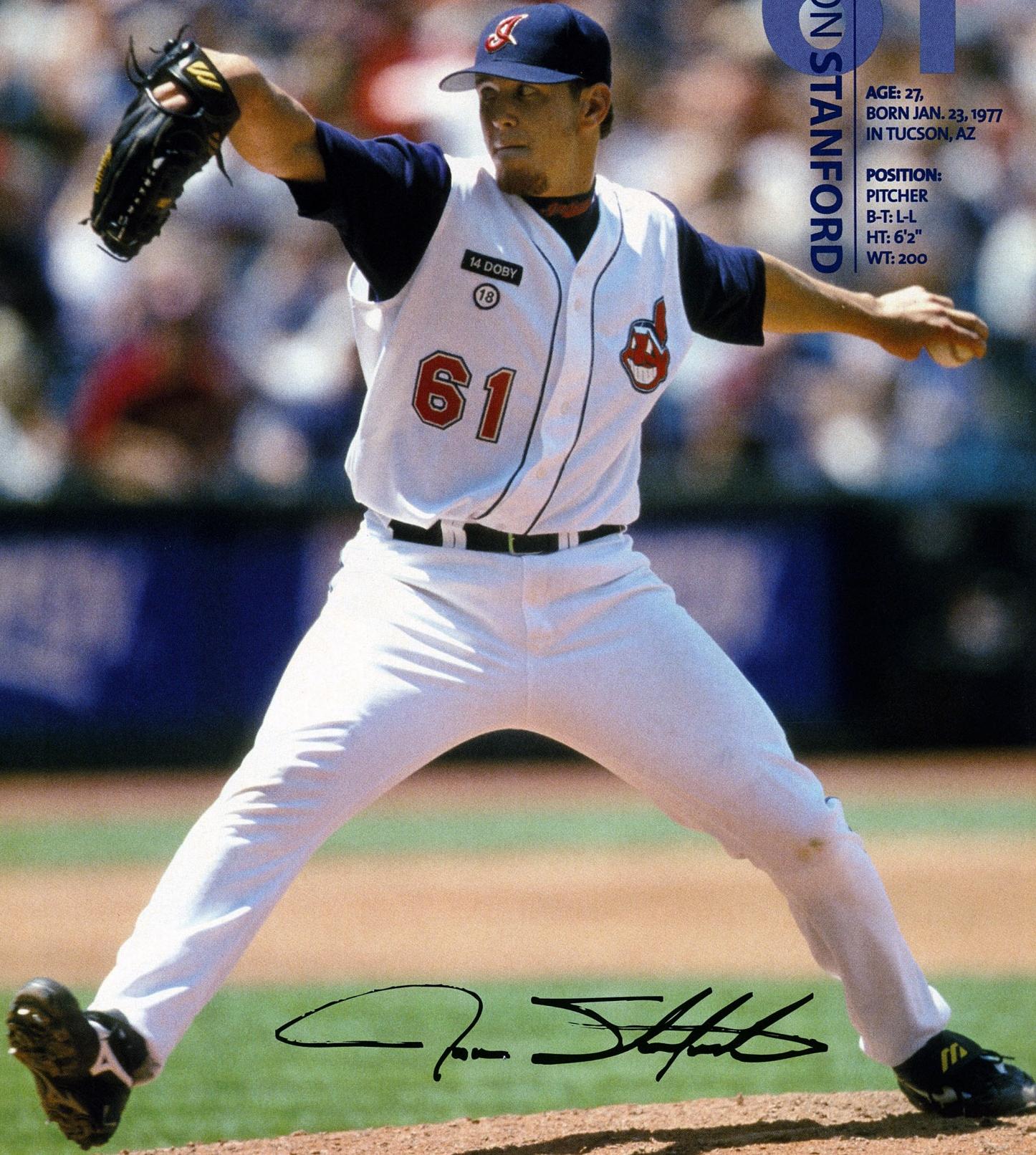
52



JASON STANFORD

AGE: 27,
BORN JAN. 23, 1977
IN TUCSON, AZ

POSITION:
PITCHER
B-T: L-L
HT: 6'2"
WT: 200



R. Stanford

SCOTT STEWART

AGE: 28,
BORN AUGUST 14, 1975
IN BROCKTON, MA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-L HT: 6'2" WT: 225

55



OMAR VIZQUEL

AGE: 36,
BORN APRIL 24, 1967
IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA

POSITION: INFILDER
B-T: S-R HT: 5'9" WT: 185

3

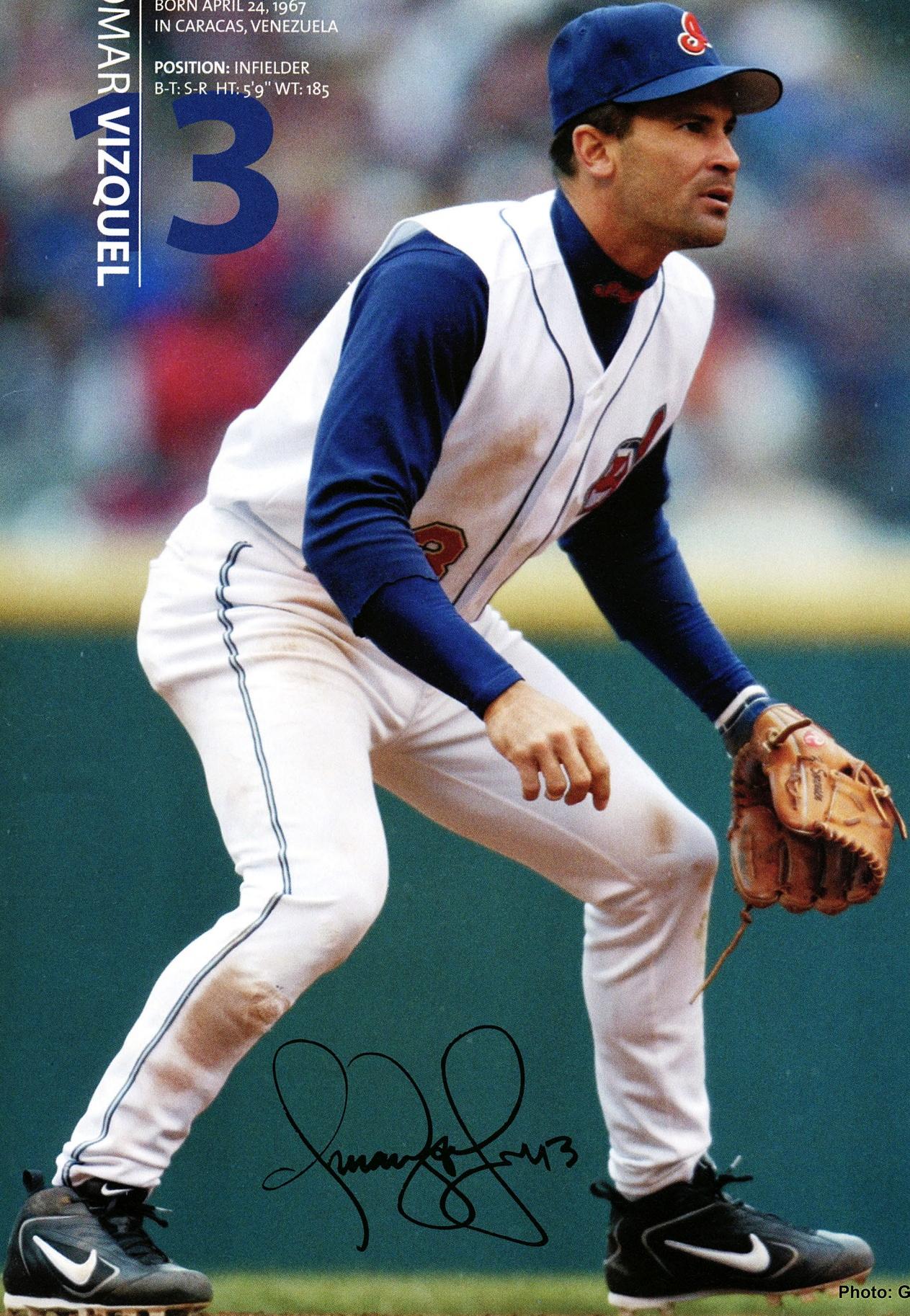


Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

JAKE WESTBROOK

AGE: 26, BORN SEPT. 29, 1977
IN ATHENS, GA

POSITION: PITCHER
B-T: R-R HT: 6'3" WT: 215

37

Jake Westbrook